

PATENT
Docket No. 20162/04265398

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:) I hereby certify that this paper and the
) documents are being submitted
 Marcus Braun) electronically with the US Patent and
) Trademark Office on this date:
 U.S. Serial No.: 10/815,395)
) **January 8, 2009**
 For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT)
)
 Filed: April 1, 2004) /Joseph T. Jasper/
 Group Art Unit: 3739) Joseph T. Jasper
) Registration No.: 50,833
 Examiner: Michael F. Peffley) Attorney for Applicant

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 8, 2008

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated October 8, 2008, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:

The Status of the Claims is reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.